

Safe Routes to School Program

Accepting
Applications:

May 1, 2006

On-line Information:

<http://www.in.gov/dot>

<http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/saferoutes/>



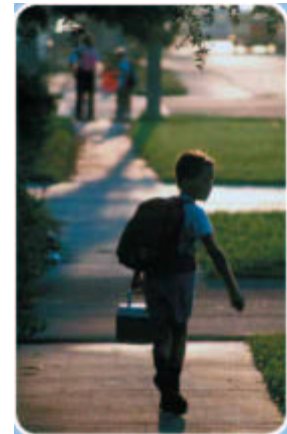
Photos: www.pedbikeimages.org/Dan Burden



Safe Routes to School Program

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Safe Routes to School Program



Indiana
Department of
Transportation

*Driving Indiana's
Economic Growth!*

What is the Safe Routes to School Program?

There was a time when walking and bicycling to school was a part of everyday life. In 1969, about half of all students walked or bicycled to school. Today, fewer than 15% of all school trips are made by walking or bicycling, one-quarter are made on a school bus, and more than half of all children arrive at school by car. Parents often say traffic danger is a reason why their children don't bike or walk to school.



Evidence shows that children who lead sedentary lifestyles are at greater risk for a variety of health problems such as obesity, diabetes, and cardiovascular disease. This decline in walking and bicycling also increases traffic congestion and reduces air quality around schools.

The Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Program empowers communities to make walking and bicycling to schools a safe and routine activity. The Program makes funding available for a wide variety of programs and projects, that encourage children to walk and bicycle safely to school.

For example . . .

- Sidewalks
- Crosswalks
- Multi-use paths
- Bicycle parking and racks
- Signs
- Pavement markings

- Signal flashers
- "Walking school bus" programs
- Crossing guard training/equipment
- Walk & bike to school incentives
- Walk & bike to school training
- Bicycle safety rodeos
- School zone enforcement activities

SRTS Intended Benefits

- Increase bicycle and pedestrian safety
- Increase walking & bicycling to and from school for K to 8th graders
- Decrease traffic
- Improve childhood health
- Reduce childhood obesity
- Encourage healthy and active lifestyles
- Improve air quality
- Reduce fuel consumption
- Increase community security, accessibility, and involvement
- Increase community interest in bicycle and pedestrian accommodations